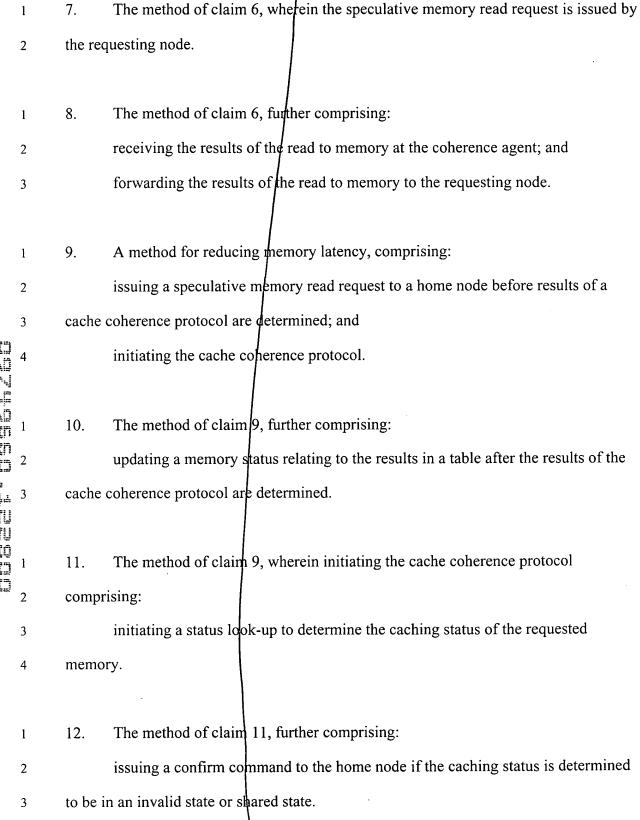
WHAT IS CLAIMED:

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- A method for reducing memory latency in a multi-node architecture, comprising: 1. receiving a speculative memory read request at a home node before results of a cache coherence protocol are determined; and (wol 4, lives 11 et seq) initiating a read to memory to complete the speculative memory read request.
- The method of claim 2, further comprising: 2. 1 buffering results of the read to memory.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising: dropping the results of the read to memory on a buffer full condition or if a cancel command is received.
 - The method of claim 3, further comprising: 4. if a confirm command is received after results of the read to memory are dropped, initiating a second read to memory to complete a memory read request.
- The method of claim 4, further comprising: 5. 1 forwarding results of the second read to memory to a requester. 2
- The method of claim 3, further comprising: 6. if a confirm command is received before results of the speculative read are 2 dropped, forwarding the results of the read to memory to a requester. 3

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a processor;

	1	13.	The method of claim 11, further comprising:		
	2		snooping a node with the exclusive copy of the requested memory cached.		
	1	14.	The method of claim 13, further comprising:		
	2		determining whether the exclusive copy of the requested memory is clean or dirty.		
	1	15.	The method of claim 14, further comprising:		
	2		issuing a confirm command to the home node if the exclusive copy of the		
	3	reques	ted memory is clean.		
	1	16.	The method of claim 14, further comprising:		
	2		issuing a cancel command to the home node if the exclusive copy of the requested		
	3	memo	ry is dirty.		
	1	17.	The method of claim 13, further comprising:		
	2		receiving a snoop result, wherein the snoop result includes a copy of the requested		
	3	memory; and			
	4		updating a memory status relating to the requested memory in a table.		
	1	18.	The method of claim 17, further comprising:		
	2		receiving the requested memory; and		
	3		forwarding the requested memory to a requesting node.		
	1	19.	A home node for responding to read requests in a multi-node architecture		
	2	includ	ing a plurality of nodes, the home node comprising:		

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	a memory;	and
	a node con	roller coupled to the processor and memory, the node controller
adapte	d to:	
	rece	ive a speculative memory read request from a requester in the multi-
	nod	e architecture before a cache coherence protocol is resolved, and
	init	ate a read to memory to complete the speculative memory read
	requ	uest.

- 20. The home node of claim 19 further comprising:
 a buffer adapted to buffer the results of the read to memory.
- 21. The home node of claim 20, wherein the results of the read from memory are dropped from the buffer on a buffer full condition or upon receiving a cancel command.
- 22. The home node of claim 20, wherein the node controller responsive to a confirm is adapted to forward the results of the read to memory to the requester.
- 23. The home node of claim 20, wherein the node controller responsive to a cancel command is adapted to drop the data specified by the speculative read command.
 - 24. A system comprising:
 - a node including a node controller adapted to control a plurality of processors resident in the node, wherein the node controller adapted to receive a speculative read request before results of a coherence protocol are determined and the node controller adapted to read data specified by the speculative read command from memory; and

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	6	a coherence agent coupled to the at least one node, the coherence agent including
	7	a coherence controller adapted to determine the results of the coherence protocol and
	8	adapted to forward a cancel dommand or a confirm command to the node after the results
	9	of the coherence protocol are determined.
	1	25. The system of claim 24, wherein the node controller responsive to the confirm
	2	command issued by the coherence controller is adapted to send the data read from
	3	memory to the coherence controller.
	1	26. The system of claim 24, wherein the node controller responsive to the cancel
The Mark	2	command issued by the coherence controller is adapted to drop the data read from
mark and found if it time	3	memory.
ilui).	1	27. The system of claim 24, further comprising:
	2	a requesting node adapted to send a data read request to request data identified by
dame dated done dates	3 .	a memory address included in the data read request.
Total.	. 1	28. The system of claim 27, wherein the speculative read request is sent by the
	2	requesting node.
	1	29. The system of claim 24, wherein the speculative read request is sent by the
	2	switching agent.